

Appl. No. 09/308,314  
Amdt. dated January 27, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of November 5, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 5-6, 14-17 and 25-30 remain in this application, and have been allowed. Claims 2 and 13 were previously canceled. Claims 4, 7-12, 18-24, and 34 which have been withdrawn, are now canceled. Also claims 31-33 are canceled.

Claims 31-33 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilcox (GB patent 2,026,851) in view of Bray Jr. (US 4,463,904) for the reasons stated in the Office Action.

The non-allowed claims have been canceled without prejudice to filing divisional or continuation applications for their future prosecution.

In the event there are further issues remaining the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone attorney to reach agreement to expedite issuance of this application.

Since the present claims set forth the present invention patentably and distinctly, and are not taught by the cited art either taken alone or in combination, this amendment is now believed to place this case in condition for allowance and the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the matter, enter this amendment, and to allow all of the claims in this case.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joachim Bandemer, et al  
by:

MARTIN A. FARBER  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registered Representative  
Registration No. 22,345

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the accompanying Amendment Upon Final Rejection is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent Office on January 27, 2004.

Signed by Martin A. Farber

Dated: January 27, 2004  
866 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017 (212) 758-2878